

Ex. # 1972

Monthly Reports of the Secret Service Police - August,
1942 - page 206

2. A Plan to Use Prisoners of War as a Result of Labor Shortage.

Owing to the good results obtained by 150 American prisoners of war at Zentsuji Prisoner of War Camp who had been sent to Osaka in order to engage in laboring works as a neutralizing measure for labor shortage suffered in the military works and harbor equipment, the enterprising circles who were suffering from the labor shortage at several districts around Tokyo and Hyogo, Fukucka and Nagasaki Prefectures, applied to the military authorities to allow them to use the prisoners of war as follows:

- (1) Under Hyogo Prefecture, the companies engaging in the stevedore business at Kobe Harbor and Hirohata ports for the works of the Nittetsu and Nippon Steel Works, are applying to the military authorities for the use of 680 prisoners of war.
- (2) Under Fukucka Prefecture, the companies engaging in loading and unloading coal in the port of Moji desiring to use the prisoners of war for their requirements, asked the Chief of the Moji Police Office in the district concerned for his good offices. Apart from this it was decided to distribute 1,000 prisoners of war in consideration of the acute labor shortage in the stevedore business at the harbors in Northern Kyushu.
- (3) Under the Nagasaki Prefecture it was already decided to distribute respectively 2,000 prisoners of war for the Mitsubishi Dock Yard and 1,000 for the Kayaki-Jima Dock Yard as they had secured permission from the authorities.
- (4) Under the areas in the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Police Bureau, permission has already been secured to use prisoners of war for unloading freights at Shibaura, and for this purpose it was decided that 400 British prisoners of war be transferred from Malay districts shortly. Although the direct guarding and direction for prisoners of war engaged in work in the country are taken charge of by the military authorities, the responsibility for directing and controlling anti-espionage and other matters in regard to the people living in the districts where the prisoners of war are working, should be taken care of by the police office. Accordingly, in case of the realization of the above mentioned plans, it is necessary for the police officers to direct and control the people properly in cooperation with the authorities concerned.

Document No. 706-A

W.D.C. No. _____
I.P.S. No. 706-A

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, SHIBATA, Kosaburo, hereby certify that I am officially connected with the Japanese Government in the following capacity: Administrative Officer of the Home Ministry, and that as such official I have custody of the document hereto attached dated January-December, 1942, and described as follows: Monthly Report of the Secret Service Police

I further certify that the attached record and document is an official document of the Japanese Government, and that it is part of the official archives and files of the following named ministry or department (specifying also the file number or citation, if any, or any other official designation of the regular location of the document in the archives or files): Home Ministry

Signed at Tokyo on this
4th day of November, 1946.

/s/ Kosaburo SHIBATA
Signature of Official
SEAL

Witness: /s/ Seiichi OKADA

Second Class Administrative Officer
of the Investigation Bureau of the
Home Ministry
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, J. A. Curtis, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above certification was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Japanese Government in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this
5th day of November, 1946

/s/ J. A. Curtis 2nd Lt.
NAME

Witness: /s/ Richard H. Larson

Investigator I.P.S.
Official Capacity